

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /082 W

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R 261247Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4588

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1537

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MT, BG

SUBJ: BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALTA

REF: BRUSSELS 4248

1. BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER LEBURTON'S VISIT TO MALTA
WAS CLEARLY TERMED PRIVATE AND NO REPEAT NO COMMUNIQUE
WAS ISSUED UPON DEPARTURE.

2. LEBURTON STAYED WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL, CUSTOMARY FOR
DISTINGUISHED VISITORS, WHO GAVE SMALL FOR HIM ON
NIGHT OF ARRIVAL. ONLY CEREMONIAL FUNCTION WAS RECEPTION
GIVEN BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER EVENING JULY 22. LEBURTON
SPENT DAY OF JULY 22 AT PRIME MINISTER'S SUMMER RESIDENCE
AND UNLESS HE IS NORMALLY FLORID, HE GOT A GOOD SUNBURN.

3. LEBURTON'S RATHER ELABORATE SCHEDULE OF VISITING
INDUSTRIAL PLANTS AND SIGHTSEEING CURTAILED WITHOUT
EXPLANATION JULY 23. HE PAID BRIEF VISIT TO MALTA
DRYDOCKS, HAD MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER AT HIS
OFFICE AND LATER WENT SWIMMING WITH MINTOFF BEFORE
DEPARTURE EVENING JULY 23.

4. FOREIGN MINISTRY IS UNCOMMUNICATIVE ON SUBJECT OF
DISCUSSIONS, PROBABLY BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT INFORMED.
PRESS MENTIONS EUROPEAN SECURITY AND BILATERAL RELATIONS
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AS LIKELY SUBJECTS. IT WOULD BE SURPRISING IF MINTOFF

DID NOT REPEAT NOT ASK LEBURTON FOR ASSISTANCE DRYDOCKS
OR IN OTHER FIELDS.
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